IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows: Page 18, Lines 9-17:

Through the processes described above, now we have obtained the information of the speech data that extracts feature of speech data, or represents a range having high reliability and small variation suitable for labeling speech data. Therefore, a desired processing may be performed on the frame specified by the information. In the apparatus in accordance with the present embodiment, pseudo-syllabic center extracting unit 96 applies this information to formant optimizing unit 98, and formant optimizing unit 98 ~~calculates AQ at the pseudo-syllabic center in the following manner~~ optimizes the estimated formant value in the following manner, using this information.

Please amend the specification as follows: Page 21, Lines 4-11:

Fig. 11 shows the estimated glottal flow waveform 270, derivative 272 thereof, and spectrum 274 of the estimated glottal flow waveform, at the time point indicated by a dotted box 262 on the left side of Fig. 10. At the time point corresponding to box 262 of Fig. 10, ~~AQ 254 is high~~ the horizontal bar in the AQ display 254 is high (meaning AQ value is numerically low), that is, the sound is close to a pressed sound at this time point. As can be seen from Fig. 11, the waveform of the glottal flow at this time point is close to a saw tooth wave, and much different from a sine wave. The derivative waveform changes steeply.

<u>Please amend the specification as follows: Page 21, Lines 12-18:</u>

Fig. 12 shows the estimated glottal flow waveform 280, derivative 282 thereof, and spectrum 284 of the estimated glottal flow waveform, at the time point indicated by a dotted box 260 of Fig. 10. At the time point corresponding to box 260 of Fig. 10, ~~AQ 254 is low~~ <u>the horizontal bar in the AQ display 254 is low (meaning the AQ value is numerically high)</u>, that is, the sound is close to a breathy sound at this time point. As can be seen from Fig. 12, the waveform of the glottal flow at this time point is close to a clear sine curve.